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Monday, February 1, 2010



INSIDE TODAY

WORLD NEWS

DRONE STRIKE

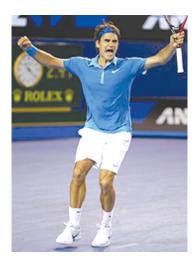


This Nov. 26, 2008 file photo taken in Orakzai tribal region of Pakistan shows Hakimullah Mehsud. The Pakistani army said Sunday Jan. 31, 2010 it is investigating reports that Mehsud has died from injuries sustained in a U.S. drone missile strike.

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SPORTS NEWS

SWEET 16



Roger Federer of Switzerland celebrates after beating Andy Murray of Britain to win the Men's singles final match at the Australian Open tennis championship in Melbourne, Australia, Sunday, Jan. 31, 2010

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In this Jan. 27, 2010, file photo President Barack Obama delivers the first State of the Union address of his presidency on Capitol Hill in Washington. To the joint session of Congress Obama said, "So, as temperatures cool, I want everyone to take another look at the plan we've proposed... if anyone from either party has a better approach that will bring down premiums, bring down the deficit, cover the uninsured, strengthen Medicare for seniors and stop insurance company abuses, let me know... I'm eager to see it." Vice President Joe Biden and House Speaker Nancy Pelosi are seen in the background.

Associated Press

Obama's \$3.8T budget heading to Congress

MARTIN CRUTSINGER

AP Economics Writer

WASHINGTON (AP) — The Obama administration on Sunday endorsed spending an additional \$100 billion to attack painfully high unemployment as it prepared to send Congress a \$3.8 trillion budget that would provide billions more to pull the country out of the Great Recession while increasing taxes on the wealthy and imposing a spending freeze on many government programs.

White House spokesman Robert Gibbs said the administration believed "somewhere in the \$100 billion range" would be the appropriate amount for a new jobs measure made up of a business tax credit to encourage hiring, increased infrastructure spending and money from the government's bailout fund to get banks to increase loans to struggling small businesses.

Continued on page 4



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U.S. to consider local views on 9/11 trial location

DOUGLASS K. DANIEL
Associated Press Writer
WASHINGTON (AP) — The
Obama administration said
Sunday it would consider local
opposition when deciding where
to hold Sept. 11 terror trials and
pledged to seek swift justice for
the professed mastermind of the
attacks.

"Khalid Sheikh Mohammed is going to meet justice and he's going to meet his maker," said President Barack Obama's press secretary, Robert Gibbs. "He will be brought to justice and he's likely to be executed for the heinous crimes that he committed in killing and masterminding the killing of 3,000 Americans. That you can be sure of."

Objections from New York City officials and residents have intensified since the Justice Department announced late last year it planned to put Mohammed and other accused Sept. 11 conspirators on trial in federal court in lower Manhattan.

Continued on next page



Pedestrians are framed by Manhattan Federal court in the background as they walk on Canal Street in the Chinatown neighborhood of Manhattan, Friday, Jan. 29, 2010 in New York. Facing growing opposition to its plans to hold the Sept. 11 terrorist trial in New York City, the Obama administration is considering moving the proceedings elsewhere.

Associated Press

Haiti detains Americans taking kids across border

FRANK BAJAK

Associated Press Writer

PORT-AU-PRINCE, Haiti (AP) — Ten U.S. Baptists were being held in the Haitian capital Sunday after trying to take 33 children out of Haiti at a time of growing fears over possible child trafficking.

The church members, most from Idaho, said they were trying to rescue abandoned and traumatized children. But officials said they lacked the proper documents when they were arrested Friday night in a bus along with earthquake survivors aged from 2 months to 12 years.

The group said its "Haitian Orphan Rescue Mission" was an effort to help abandoned children by taking them to an orphanage across the border in the Dominican Republic.

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Aruba_TODAY

Continued from front page

In its new budget, the Obama administration is proposing a \$200 million fund to help pay for security costs in cities hosting terrorist trials. White House aide David Axelrod said New York Mayor Michael Bloomberg and other city officials have changed their minds after initially supporting the decision for trials in the city, citing logistics and costs.

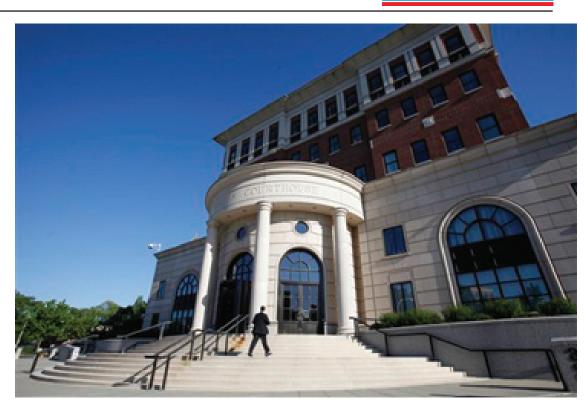
"The president believes that we need to take into consideration what the local authorities are saying," Axelrod said. "But he also believes ... that we ought to bring Khalid Sheikh Mohammad and all others who are involved in terrorist acts to justice swift and sure."

Safety and cost have been issues in the debate, but some officials also have questioned

the administration's legal strategy for using civilian courts for the suspects instead of military tribunals. Sen. Lamar Alexander, a Tennessee Republican, said the administration should shift the trials to military courts, which he said have been reviewed by Congress to ensure fairness. He and Republicans have other criticized officials for charging Nigerian Umar Farouk Abdulmutallab in civilian court in the Christmas airliner plot instead of turning him over to military authorities.

"We have to make a distinction between a kid who breaks into a sandwich shop in Detroit and a Nigerian terrorist who wants to blow up an airplane flying into Detroit," Alexander said.

Sen. Evan Bayh, an Indiana

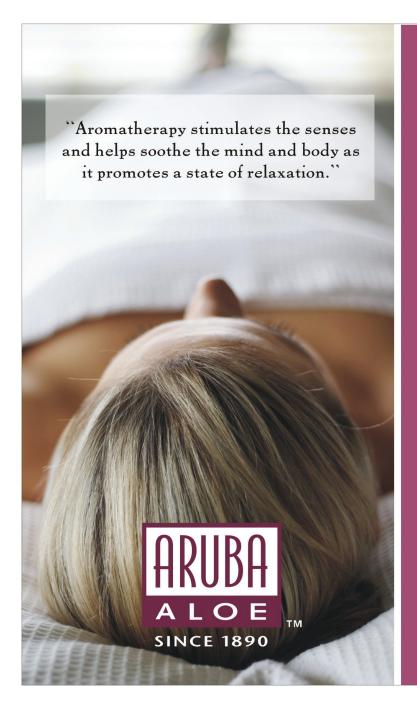


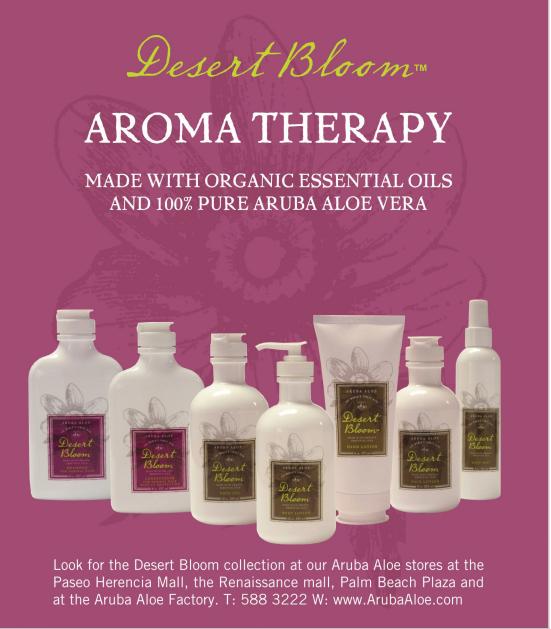
In this May 21, 2009 photo shows the Unites States Courthouse in White Plains, N.Y. The courthouse is a possible alternative to lower Manhattan for the Sept. 11 terrorist trial.

Associated Press

Democrat, indicated he didn't support the request for \$200 million for civilian trials, saying he favored trying terrorism suspects safely, quickly and inexpensively.

"If there's somewhere we can try them without spending that money, why spend the money? We've got a lot of other fiscal problems," Bayh said. Gibbs spoke on CNN's "State of the Union" while Axelrod appeared on NBC's "Meet the Press." Alexander and Bayh spoke on "Fox News Sunday."







US military resuming Haiti medical flights

JENNIFER KAY
Associated Press Writer
MIAMI (AP) — The U.S.
military will resume bringing
Haitian earthquake victims to
the United States aboard its
planes for medical treatment,
ending a suspension that
lasted several days, the White
House said Sunday.

The military had brought hundreds of critically injured Haitians to the United States aboardits planes before halting the flights on Wednesday. Since then, at least a handful of patients were flown on civilian aircraft, and other flights continued to carry U.S. citizens and other mostly non-injured passengers.

Late Sunday, White House spokesman Tommy Vietor said the medical airlift was on track to resume by early Monday. The White House received assurances that additional medical capacity exists in the U.S. and among its international partners for the patients.

"We determined that we can resume these critical flights," Vietor said. "Patients are being identified for transfer, doctors are making sure that it is safe for them to fly, and we are preparing specific inflight pediatric care aboard the aircraft where needed."

Exactly what led to the medical suspension of evacuation flights was though military unclear, officials had said some states refused to take patients. Officials in Florida, one of the main destinations for military flights leaving Haiti, say no patients were ever turned away.

However, the suspension took effect after Florida Gov. Charlie Crist sent a letter Tuesday to Health and Human Services Secretary Kathleen Sebelius saying the state's hospitals were reaching a saturation point.

The letter also asked for federal help paying for patient expenses — a request Crist on Sunday said could have been misinterpreted. He also said federal officials have indicated he would receive help covering the costs, totaling more than \$7 million.

Crist told ABC News' "Good Morning America" on Sunday he was puzzled by the suspension.

Military planes carrying 700 U.S. citizens, legal residents and other foreign nationals landed in central Florida over the past 24 hours, and three of those people required medical care at hospitals, state officials said. However, Florida had not received any critical patients needing urgent care since the halt, said Sterling Ivey, the governor's spokesman.

"We're welcoming Haitians with open arms and probably done more than any other state and are happy to continue to do so," Crist said.

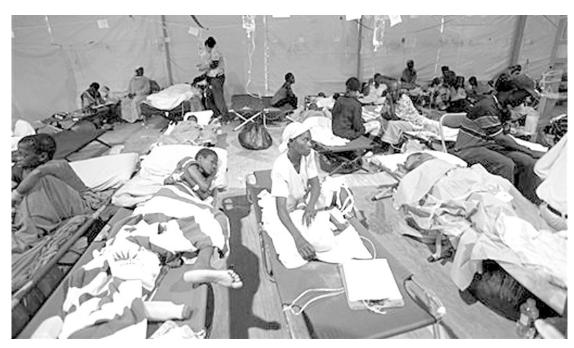
Col. Rick Kaiser said Sunday that the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers has been asked to build a 250-bed tent hospital in Haiti to relieve pressure on facilities where earthquake victims are being treated under tarpaulins.

Several hospitals in the Haitian capital of Port-au-Prince were damaged or destroyed in the Jan. 12 earthquake.

U.S. Ambassador to Haiti Kenneth Merten said about 435 earthquake victims had been evacuated before the suspension.

Individual hospitals were still able to arrange private medical flights — such as one Sunday that brought three critically ill children to hospitals in Philadelphia.

The Children's Hospital of Philadelphia said the trio



Patients rest on cots at the University of Miami-run field hospital in Haiti's international airport in Port-au-Prince, Saturday, Jan. 30, 2010. The U.S. military has halted flights carrying Haitian earthquake victims to the United States because of an apparent dispute over where seriously injured patients should be taken for treatment.

Associated Press

arrived Sunday afternoon. One is a 5-year-old girl with tetanus, the second, a 14-month-old boy with pneumonia. The third, a baby suffering from severe burns from sun exposure after the quake, was transferred to another area hospital.

Doctors have said the makeshift facilities in Haiti aren't equipped to treat such critical conditions and warn that patients in similar condition could die if they aren't treated in U.S. hospitals.

Cristalso has asked Sebelius for better coordination of the evacuations.

The state had been relying on air traffic controllers at Miami International Airport to relay information about the evacuations because the U.S. military flights headed to the state without notice, David Halstead, the Florida Division of Emergency Management's interim director, said Sunday.

"The governor's request is, 'Just tell us a plan," Halstead said.



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3.8.T Budget

Continued from front page

the House in December but higher than an \$83 billion proposal that surfaced last week in the Senate.

Gibbs said it was important for Democrats and Republicans to put aside their differences to pass a bill that addresses jobs, the country's No. 1 concern. "I think that would be a powerful signal to send to the American people," Gibbs said in an appearance on CNN's "State of the Union."

Job creation was a key theme of the budget President Barack Obama was sending Congress on Monday, a document designed, as was the president's State of the Union address, to reframe his young presidency after a protracted battle over health

care damaged his standing in public opinion polls and contributed to a series of Democratic election defeats.

Obama's \$3.8 trillion spending plan for the 2011 budget year that begins Oct. 1 attempts to navigate between the opposing goals of pulling the country out of a deep recession and dealing with a budget deficit that soared to an all-time high of \$1.42 trillion last year.

The Congressional Budget Office is forecasting that the deficit for the current budget year will be only slightly lower, \$1.35 trillion, and the flood of red ink will remain massive for years to come, raising worries among voters and the foreign investors who buy much of the country's debt.

On the anti-recession front, congressional sources said

Obama's new budget will propose extending the popular Making Work Pay middle-class tax breaks of \$400 per individual and \$800 per couple through 2011. They were due to expire after this year.

The budget will also propose \$250 payments to Social Security recipients to bolster their finances in a year when they are not receiving the normal cost-of-living boost to their benefit checks because of low inflation. Obama will also seek a \$25 billion increase in payments to help recession-battered states.

Obama's new budget will set off months of debate in the Democratically controlled Congress, especially an election year in which Republicans are hoping to use attacks against government overspending to gain seats. Obama has argued that he inherited a deficit of more than \$1 trillion and was forced to increase spending to stabilize the financial system and combat the worst recession since the 1930s.

Obama's new budget was expected to repeat many of the themes of his first budget. But in a bow to worries over the soaring deficits, the administration is proposing a three-year freeze on spending for a wide swath of domestic government agencies. Military, veterans, homeland security and big benefit programs such as Social Security and Medicare, which provides health care coverage to the elderly, would not feel the pinch.

The freeze would affect \$447 billion in spending and is designed to save \$250 billion over a decade. However, it would not fall equally on all domestic agencies. Some would see budget cuts to free up spending for programs the administration wants to expand such as education and civilian research efforts.

NASA's mission to return



White House Press Secretary Robert Gibbs briefs reporters at the White House in Washington, Tuesday, Jan. 26, 2010.
Associated Press

astronauts to the moon would be grounded with the space agency instead getting an additional \$5.9 billion over five years to encourage private companies to build, launch and operate their own spacecraft for the benefit of NASA and others. NASA would pay the private companies to carry U.S. astronauts.

Obama's budget repeats recommendations for an overhaul of the nation's health care system, the fight that dominated his first year in office. It proposes to get billions of dollars in savings from the Medicare program and again seeks increased taxes on the wealthy by limiting the benefits they receive from various tax deductions. Both ideas have met strong resistance in Congress.

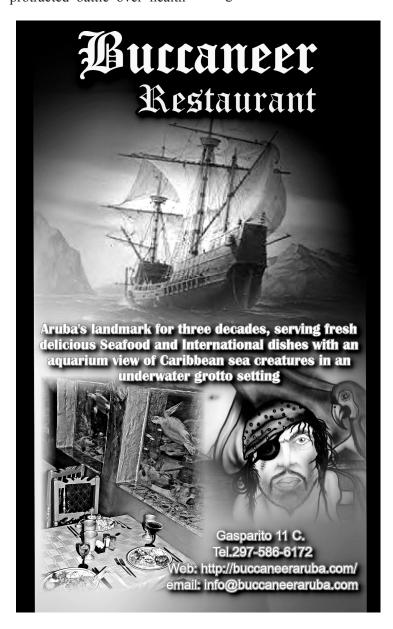
Gibbs insisted Sunday that the president's push for health care was "still inside the 5yard line," which in American football means a team is close to scoring a touchdown. But Senate Republican leader Mitch McConnell, appearing on CNN, said the public was overwhelmingly against the bill and the administration should "put it on the shelf, go back and start over."

In addition to the freeze on discretionary nonsecurity spending, Obama is proposing

to boost revenues by allowing the Bush administration tax cuts of 2001 and 2003 to expire at the end of this year for families making more than \$250,000 annually. Tax relief for those less well-off would be extended.

The new Obama budget will also include a proposal to levy a fee on the country's biggest banks to raise an estimated \$90 billion to recover losses from the government's \$700 billion financial rescue fund. Those losses are not expected to come from the bank bailouts but from the support extended to General Motors and Chrysler and insurance giant American International Group as well as help provided to homeowners struggling to avoid foreclosures.

Also on the deficit front. the president has endorsed a pay-as-you-go proposal that passed the Senate last week. It would require any new tax cuts or entitlement spending increases to be paid for, and he has promised to create a commission to recommend by year's end ways to trim the deficits. However, a legislatively mandated panel was rejected in a Senate vote last week. Republicans opposed establishing the panel because it might recommend tax increases to close the deficit.



Palin's shadow hangs over Alaska ethics debate

By BECKY BOHRER
Associated Press Writer
JUNEAU, Alaska – The
fallout from Sarah Palin's
hasty retreat as governor is
being cleaned up by the man
she appointed attorney general
in her waning days in office.

Attorney General Dan Sullivan has proposed broad changes to Alaska's ethics rules that Palin complained helped drive her out. One Sullivan recommendation that might sound familiar: Setting ethical standards for spouses and kids to travel with the governor or lieutenant governor at taxpayer expense.

Another would implement an opinion he issued in August, that the state could pay legal fees executive branch officials rack up fighting ethics complaints, if the official is exonerated by an attorney general, independent investigator or by the state Personnel Board, whose members are appointed by the governor.

Sullivan's proposals are on track to take effect after a review of public comments unless the legislature passes superseding law. The prospects for that happening — in an election year, with many Alaskans worried about job losses and energy prices — appear dim.

While ethics is an important issue, "It's not going to be very high on my laundry list of state issues to address," said Rep. Jay Ramras, R-Fairbanks, whose Judiciary Committee would be where any ethics bills might land.

"I think a lot of these issues ... would benefit from the passage of time, and likely are better issues for the (next) Legislature to take up," said Ramras, who often found himself at odds with Palin. He said he wants to focus his limited committee time on anti-crime measures.

But at least one lawmaker believes any change to the ethics code should come from the Legislature, rather than from a political appointee.

Rep. Max Gruenberg, D-Anchorage, has introduced legislation with some provisions similar to Sullivan's for travel and legal fee reimbursement. He would like the state to put off implementation of Sullivan's plan, pending legislative action.

None of Sullivan's proposals would retroactively benefit Palin, according to the state's ethics attorney. But they do speak directly to complaints raised during her tumultuous two-and-a-half years in office, and are aimed at clearing up gray areas and, according to Sullivan, discouraging abuse. There is also a sense that some of this is simply cleaning the slate of all Palin's issues.

By the time she was named the Republican vice presidential nominee in the summer of 2008, she'd already rocked the political boat at home. She shunned the capital city, burned bridges with the political establishment and had an attimes prickly relationship with lawmakers — a situation that only worsened when she returned to Juneau for the 2009 legislative session.

Her emergence on the national political scene prompted a flood of public records requests, the volume of which state officials hadn't seen before and are still working to fulfill, and set off a flurry of ethics complaints.

More than 20 complaints were filed against her with all but two, related to travel and a legal defense fund, dismissed, said her personal attorney, Thomas Van Flein.

While the defense fund issue is still pending, the travel complaint, related to Palin charging the state when her kids traveled with her, was settled, with Palin agreeing to reimburse the state for some questionable costs. The investigator's finding, that there is little in state rules to determine ethical

travel standards for the first family, gave rise to Sullivan's proposal that a family member can tag along at state cost if his or her presence is required for state business or otherwise "benefits the state."

Palin cited the probes' financial and psychological toll as key in her decision to resign. Her legal bills have run into the hundreds of thousands. Disclosed costs incurred by the state have neared \$370,000.

Van Flein said the ethics law is meant to address and should focus on "open and flagrant ethical lapses in the state and corruption" — not on what he considers frivolous complaints, such as one dismissed against Palin that accused her of promoting her husband's sponsor in a snowmobile race by wearing a company logo jacket to the start.

At least two legislators, including one Democrat, are supporting measures to bar those lodging ethics complaints from taking their charges public. If they do, their complaints would be dismissed. The lawmakers said the proposal would reduce the frivolous or partisan complaints that they say besieged Palin.

"You want to make political points against Sarah Palin? Hire a hall," said Rep. Mike Doogan, an Anchorage Democrat and former journalist. "Don't make the state of Alaska your soapbox. ... This is really about what's right here, for anybody who finds themselves in that situation."

Anchorage resident Andree McLeod, who's filed numerous complaints against Palin, believes each had merit.

"This is the only avenue I have to address the misconduct of government officials," she said, adding that lawmakers are "totally out of line" if they believe any of her complaints were politically motivated.





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Americans Detained

Continued from front page

"In this chaos the government is in right now, we were just trying to do the right thing," the group's spokeswoman, Laura Silsby, told The Associated Press at the judicial police headquarters in the capital, where the Americans were being held pending a Monday hearing before a judge. No charges had been filed.

The children, some of them sick and dehydrated, were taken to an orphanage run by Austrian-based SOS Children's Villages, which was trying to find their parents or close relatives, said a spokesman there, George Willeit.

"One child, an 8- or 9-yearold, said she thought she was going to some sort of summer or vacation camp in the Dominican Republic," Willeit said.

The Baptist group planned to scoop up 100 kids and take them by bus to a 45-room hotel

at Cabarete, a beach resort in the Dominican Republic, that they were converting into an orphanage, Silsby told the AP.

Whether they realized it or not, these Americans — the first known to be taken into custody since the Jan. 12 quake — put themselves in the middle of a firestorm in Haiti, where government leaders have suspended adoptions amid fears that parentless or lost children are more vulnerable than ever to child trafficking.

The quake apparently orphaned many children and left others separated from parents, adding to the difficulty of helping children in need while preventing exploitation of them.

While many legitimate adoption agencies and orphanages operate in Haiti, often run by religious groups, the intergovernmental International Organization for Migration reported in 2007 that bogus adoption agencies



American citizens pose for a photo at police headquarters in the international airport of Port-au-Prince, Saturday, Jan. 30, 2010. Ten Americans were detained by Haitian police on Saturday as they tried to bus 33 children across the border into the Dominican Republic, allegedly without proper documents. In the front row from left to right are Carla Thompson, 53, of Meridien, Idaho, Laura Silsby, 40, of Boise, Idaho, Nicole Lankford, 18, of Middleton, Idaho, and in the back row from left to right are Steve McMullen, 56, of Twin Falls, Idaho, Jim Allen, 47, of Amarillo, Texas, Silas Thompson, 19, of Twin Falls, Idaho, Paul Thompson, 43, hometown unknown, and Drew Culborth, 34, of Topeka, Kansas. The names of the two Americans not pictured are unknown. Associated Press

in Haiti were offering children to rich Haitians and foreigners in return for processing fees reaching US\$10,000.

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Silsby said her group, including members from Texas and Kansas, paid no money for the children, whom

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she said they obtained from a Haitian pastor named Jean Sanbil of the Sharing Jesus Ministries.

Silsby, 40, of Boise, Idaho, was asked if she didn't consider it naive to cross the border without adoption papers at a time when Haitians are so concerned about child trafficking. "By no means are we any part of that. That's exactly what we are trying to combat," she said.

She said she hadn't been following news reports while in Haiti.

Social Affairs Minister Yves Cristallin told the AP that the Americans were suspected of taking part in an illegal adoption scheme.

Some members of the Central Valley Baptist Church in Meridian, Idaho, wept on Sunday as Pastor Clint Henry reported the team had been detained and asked for prayers.

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Russian police break up protests, scores detained



Police officer detains a participant of an unauthorized anti-Kremlin protest in downtown Moscow, Sunday, Jan. 31, 2010. Several hundred demonstrators gathered Sunday in a central Moscow square, defying a ban imposed by authorities. The protesters said their rally was banned in violation of the Russian constitution's guarantee of the right to gather. Police quickly broke up the protest and detained several dozen demonstrators. Associated Press VOLODYA ISACHENKOV

Associated Press Writer

MOSCOW (AP) — Russian police broke up anti-Kremlin protests in Moscow and St. Petersburg on Sunday, and detained more than 100 demonstrators, including several opposition leaders.

In Moscow, several hundred demonstrators gathered in a central square, defying a ban imposed by authorities. The protesters said their rally was banned in violation of the Russian constitution's guarantee of the right to gather.

They denounced the policies of President Dmitry Medvedev and his predecessor and mentor Vladimir Putin, who continues to wield broad powers as Russia's powerful prime minister.

Protesters shouted "Shame!" and "Down with Putin!" as Moscow police in riot gear pushed them into buses. Several dozen protesters were detained, including opposition leaders Boris Nemtsov, Eduard Limonov, Ilya Yashin, and the head of the Memorial rights group, Oleg Orlov.

Police spokesman Viktor Biryukov said about 300 people took part in the Moscow rally and

about 100 were detained.

Police quickly dispersed a similar rally in St. Petersburg, detaining most of several dozen protesters who gathered on a downtown Nevsky Prospect. Some of the demonstrators were beaten with truncheons.

Protests also were held Sunday in Yekaterinburg, Russia's third-largest city, in the Ural Mountains; in Krasnoyarsk in central Siberia; and in the far eastern port of Vladivostok. Police didn't move to break them up, according to Ekho Moskvy radio.

Similar opposition demonstrations were held in Moscow on the last days of July, August and October. The timing is a nod to the 31st Article of the Russian constitution, which guarantees the right of assembly.

Each time, the city authorities banned the rallies, saying that some other events would be held in the area on that day.

Sunday's protest in Moscow attracted more participants than previous rallies. Opposition leaders said they hope an even larger number will attend a protest on the last day of March. Russian authorities have shown little tolerance of dissent, banning most opposition rallies and sending riot police to detain protesters.













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13 young students killed at party in Mexico border

CIUDAD JUAREZ, Mexico The young adults had gathered (AP) — Armed men stormed a party in this violent Mexican border city, killing 13 high school and college students in what witnesses said they thought was an attack prompted by false information.

About two dozen teens and young adults were hospitalized after the late Saturday assault in Ciudad Juarez, a drug cartelplagued city which is one of the deadliest in the world.

Grieving witnesses and family members told The Associated Press on Sunday they thought the victims, mostly residents of the housing complex where the attack occurred, had no ties to drug traffickers.

"It must have been a huge mistake," said Martha Lujan, who lives at the housing complex.

to watch a boxing match, Lujan said, when two trucks pulled up loaded with armed men who opened fire.

Ten people were killed at the scene and other three died at local hospitals, Chihuahua State Attorney Patricia Gonzales said.

The bodies of the victims, whose ages ranged from 15 to 20, lay scattered around the house where the attack happened.

A witness to the attacks said he was just outside when the gunfire broke out. Hector, who only gave his first name because he feared retaliation, said the party was an innocuous gathering of friends who must have been targeted incorrectly.

"I think there was some

confusion," he said. "We're seeking justice."

Ciudad Juarez, a city of 1.3 million people just across the border from El Paso, Texas, is home to several drug cartel bosses who are battling for turf as thousands of troops and federal police try to stop

More than 2,250 people were killed there last year alone.

Violence also rocked the oceansideMexicancommunity of Lazaro Cardenas overnight. Police in the southwestern city said that just after midnight Saturday, about 20 heavily armed gunmen riding in trucks with tinted windows attacked a police station with grenades and assault rifles, killing a police officer and two civilians — a mother and her son who had come to pay a fine.



A surgical glove lies on a puddle of bloodied water outside of a home where unknown gunmen a day earlier stormed a gathering of students, killing at least 13 and injuring dozens in the northern border city of Ciudad Juarez, Mexico, Sunday Jan. 31, 2010. **Associated Press**

Also early Sunday morning, three women and two men, all identified as Mexican citizens, were murdered while driving in their van with California license plates near the western Mexican city of Navolato.

The bodies of the five victims, including a 16-year-old girl, were found riddled with bullets, said Martin Gastelum, attorney general for the state of Sinaloa, where Navolato is located.





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Pakistan investigates report Taliban chief is dead

ASIF SHAHZAD
Associated Press Writer
ISLAMABAD (AP) — The
Pakistani government was
investigating reports Sunday
that Pakistani Taliban leader
Hakimullah Mehsud died from
injuries sustained in a U.S.
drone missile strike launched
in mid-January after he helped
orchestrate a deadly bombing
against the CIA in Afghanistan.

Mehsud's predecessor was killed in a missile strike less than six months ago, and inflicting another blow to the militant group's leadership would be an important success for both Pakistan and the U.S.

The U.S. unleashed more than a dozen drone strikes in the month following the Dec. 30 suicide bombing against the CIA in Afghanistan, and Mehud's death would be further proof of the ability of the unmanned aircraft to target Taliban and al-Qaida leaders holed up in Pakistan's lawless tribal areas.

Pakistani government officials said they were investigating whether Mehsud was mortally wounded in one of those strikes after state television reported that he died in Orakzai, an area in Pakistan's tribal region where he was supposedly being treated for his injuries.

"We have these reports coming to us," army spokesman Gen. Athar Abbas told The Associated Press. "We are investigating whether it is true or wrong."

Interior Minister Rehman Malik said the state TV report relied on "local sources" in Orakzai that the government could not confirm.

"But the local tribal elders there and the local population say that he has been buried," Malik told ARY News TV.

A tribal elder told the AP that he attended Mehsud's funeral in the Mamuzai area of Orakzai on Thursday, after Mehsud died at his in-laws' home. The elder spoke on condition of anonymity for fear of retribution from the Taliban.

Pakistani intelligence officials had said that Mehsud was targeted in a U.S. drone strike against a meeting of militant commanders in South Waziristan on Jan. 14, triggering rumors that he had been injured or killed.

Mehsud issued an audio tape after the strike directly denying the rumors, and his voice sounded strong. But Pakistani intelligence officials told the AP on Sunday that they had confirmation that the Taliban chief's legs and abdomen were wounded in the strike.

The officials spoke on condition of anonymity because they were not authorized to talk to the media.

Pakistani Taliban officials were not immediately available for comment, but low-level fighters have dismissed rumors of Mehsud's death in recent days as propaganda.

The drone strike that targeted Mehsud came after he appeared in a video beside the Jordanian man who killed seven CIA employees in a suicide bombing at a remote base in Afghanistan. The bomber, Humam Khalil Abu-Mulal al-Balawi, said he carried out the attack in retribution for the death of former Pakistani Taliban leader Baitullah Mehsud in a U.S. drone strike last August.

The U.S. refuses to talk about the covert CIA-run drone program in Pakistan, but officials have said privately that the strikes have killed several senior Taliban and al-Qaida leaders.

Pakistani officials publicly protest the strikes as violations of the country's sovereignty, but U.S. officials say privately they support the program, especially when it targets militants like Mehsud who the government believes are a threat to the state. Mehsud, who has the reputation as a particularly ruthless militant, took over leadership of the Pakistani Taliban soon after Baitullah Mehsud's death.

The 28 year-old militant leader has focused most of his attacks against targets inside Pakistan, but his men have also been blamed for attacking U.S. and NATO supply convoys traveling through the country en route to Afghanistan.

Hakimullah Mehsud first appeared in public to journalists in November 2008, when he offered to take reporters in Orakzai on a ride in a U.S. Humvee taken from a supply truck headed to Afghanistan. He was the Pakistani Taliban's regional commander in the Orakzai, Khyber and Mohmand tribal areas before taking over the organization.

He has taken responsibility for a wave of brazen strikes inside Pakistan, including the bombing of the Pearl Continental hotel in the northwestern city of Peshawar last June and the attack on the Sri Lankan cricket team in Lahore earlier that year. There is a 50 million rupee (\$590,000) bounty on his head.

The Pakistani Taliban stepped up its attacks after the army invaded its stronghold of South Waziristan in mid-October. More than 600 people have been killed in attacks throughout the country since the ground offensive was launched.

Pakistani officials have said some of the militants have fled to neighboring North Waziristan, an area dominated by groups launching cross-border attacks against U.S. and NATO troops in Afghanistan.

The government struck deals with the leaders of two of those groups, Gul Bahadur and Maulvi Nazir, before the army invaded South Waziristan, promising not to target the militants if they stayed on the sidelines.

An umbrella group that includes the two militants and the Pakistani Taliban issued a pamphlet in North Waziristan on Sunday accusing the government of violating the agreement and warning it would trigger a major war if it launched any kind of military operation in the area.

The pamphlet issued by the Shura-e-Ittehad-ul-Mujahedeen, or United Council of Holy Warriors, said the government violated the agreement in various ways, including by creating a network of spies in North Waziristan who help the U.S. kill militants in drone attacks.

"We have tolerated all sorts of mistreatment, but now we are not going to accept any kind of military operation in even our smallest area," said the pamphlet, a copy of which was obtained by the AP.

The Pakistani army has said it cannot launch another major operation for at least six months, but it has carried out two strikes in North Waziristan in the past two weeks.



In this Oct. 4, 2009 file photo, Pakistani Taliban chief Hakimullah Mehsud arrives to meet with media in Sararogha of Pakistani tribal area of South Waziristan along the Afghanistan border. The Pakistani army said Sunday, Jan. 31, 2010 it was investigating reports that Mehsud died from injuries sustained in a U.S. drone missile strike in mid-January.



Aruba_TODAY

`Avatar' wins box office, nears domestic record

By JAKE COYLE,

AP Entertainment Writer

NEWYORK—"Avatar" has topped all movies at the box-office to dominate for a seventh straight week.

According to studio estimates Sunday, James Cameron's 3-D epic added \$30 million to bring its total to \$594.5 million. It has already set a worldwide box-office record, and it is on track to soon overtake the domestic record set by Cameron's "Titanic."

Coming in second in its debut weekend was Mel Gibson's revenge-thriller "Edge of Darkness," which earned \$17.1 million. That movie has been widely seen as a test to whether Gibson can return to headline a film, after eight years and damage to his image.

Also in its first weekend of release was "When in Rome," the Walt Disney romantic comedy starring Kristen Bell. It took in \$12.1 million.

22-year-old goes from Miss Va. to Miss America

By OSKAR GARCIA,

Associated Press Writer

LAS VEGAS – A 22-year-old Virginia woman who said she once thought her only talent was singing is the nation's newest Miss America, emerging from a field of 53 contestants picked for their beauty, compassion and interview savvy.

Caressa Cameron, a broadcast journalism student at Virginia Commonwealth University, now plans a second year away from college as she travels extensively to raise money for charity and carry the 89-year-old pageant's crown.

"I hope to gain inspiration, I hope to gain momentum so that when this 365 days is over, I can shoot through the moon," Cameron told The Associated Press.

Cameron, the first black Miss America since Ericka Dunlap in 2005, says she wants to get a master's degree and eventually become a news anchor.

Cameron, the daughter of a background researcher for the government and a contractor, said she was inspired to compete in pageants at age 14, when Miss Virginia 2003 Nancy Redd visited her school.

"At that time, all I knew that I could do was sing — that's all I had," the Fredericksburg, Va., native said.

Cameron said that after that visit, she decided to try out for a school musical, which snowballed into more opportunities in the arts, drama and other areas.

"More doors and more doors continued to open," she said. "It's so important that we reach our young people, because there are so many young people that are at the very same crossroads that I was at."

"We need those people to let them know that just because your circumstances are a certain way, you don't have to succumb to them," she said. "You can do something amazing, like become Miss America."

The last Miss America from Virginia was Nicole Johnson



Host Mario Lopez watches Miss Virginia Caressa Cameron react after being crowned Miss America by Miss America 2009 Katie Stam, Saturday Jan. 30, 2010 in Las Vegas. (AP Photo/Eric Jamison)

in 1999

Cameron won the title and a \$50,000 scholarship Saturday night after strutting in a skintight yellow dress, belting Beyonce's "Listen" from "Dreamgirls" and advising parents to limit video games and television when asked about childhood obesity during an onstage interview.

"We need to get our kids back outside, playing with sticks in the street like I did when I was little," she said. "Expand your mind, go outside and get to see what this world is like."

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quality cigars. The company sells International cigars as well. Buy a gift box of Aruhiba Corona with five cigars and you will get 1 FREE cigar of \$35. Located at the Historic Dutch Windmill. Open on Sunday from 9am to 8pm. And also at Tamarijn Hotel open from 9am to 1pm. Aruhiba is only

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BUSILESS AND TO THE TROIDERS

Problems at Toyota, JAL taint Japan Inc.'s image

By MALCOLM FOSTER

Associated Press Writer

TOKYO – Toyota is the latest Japanese corporate icon making headlines for all the wrong reasons.

News of the automaker's massive vehicle recalls over faulty gas pedals in the U.S. came just days after Japan Airlines, a once proud flag carrier, filed for bankruptcy, saddled with billions in debt.

Sony has lost its lead in consumer gadgets to the likes of Apple Inc. and has suffered its own quality mishaps. Honda, Japan's No. 2 automaker, is recalling 646,000 cars worldwide because of a faulty window switch.

Taken together, Japan Inc.'s stellar reputation for quality has taken a hit — just as China is about to overtake it as the world's No. 2 economy and rising South Korean companies compete ever more aggressively.

What went wrong with the economic giant that arose from the ashes of World War II?

The problems that confront Toyota, Sony and JAL differ, but experts say their struggles have some common themes: the perils of global expansion, a tendency to embrace the status quo, and smugness bred from success or a too-big-to-fail mentality.

"Arroganceandsomecomplacency came into play, driven by the idea that their ranking as No. 1 producer of quality goods wasn't at risk," said Kirby Daley, a veteran Tokyo trader who is now chief strategist at Newedge Group, a financial services firm in Hong Kong.

The global economic crisis helped to expose weaknesses, he said. "There was nowhere to hide."

Added to the mix for Toyota and Sony is intense competition from upstarts in South Korea, China and elsewhere in Asia.

"They can offer products as good as Japanese at much lower cost, even though quality of Japanese products is on the decline," said Shinichi Ichikawa, chief strategist at investment bank Credit Suisse. Some new Asian rivals, particularly in electronics, learned their techniques from Japanese operations set up around the region.

Cutting costs to stay competitive

while meeting growing demand, Toyota, Sony and others compromised on quality control as they tried to reach ever-larger sales targets, analysts say.

Toyota adopted the practice of using the same part across a range of models — saving vast sums of money but exposing itself to the risk that even a small defect could cause global mayhem for the company.

It also faced difficulties ensuring quality as its global sales expanded rapidly, reaching 8.9 million vehicles in 2008, when it displaced General Motors as the world's biggest automaker. Experts say its growth outpaced management's ability to anticipate looming problems.

The result: recalls of more than 7 million vehicles in the U.S., Europe and China for problems with their accelerators and floor mats, and the suspension last week of U.S. sales and production of eight models including the Camry, America's top-selling car. It's a "terrible blow" for Toyota because its identity is so closely linked to quality and the company



In this Jan. 28, 2010 photo, a visitor leaves a Toyota Motor Corp. showroom in Tokyo, Japan. Toyota is the latest in a string of corporate Japanese icons to make headlines for all the wrong reasons.

(AP Photo/Shizuo Kambayashi)

seemed slow to recognize the problems, said Kenneth Grossberg, a marketing professor at Waseda University who has lived in Japan for 16 years.

"This is the company of zero defects," he said. "How could such a major fault get past them? It violates their operating principle."

As far back as March 2007, Toyota started getting reports of gas pedals being slow to rise after being stepped on. Engineers fixed the problem in the Tundra pickup early in 2008, but troubles persisted in other models, eventually leading Toyota to announce massive recalls for the accelerator and floor mats that could trap the gas pedal.

Grossberg said a common problem at Japanese companies is "group think" that makes it hard for an individual to raise a troublesome issue.

"It either falls flat and people ignore it, or it creates a problem for the individual who brings it up," he said.

Sony started facing problems after it misjudged several critical market trends.

It was slow to predict the switch to LCD televisions and fell behind South Korea's Samsung Electronics Co., which zoomed ahead to become a market leader

Content with the success of the Walkman, the portable music player that became a global hit in the 1980s. Sony was slow to jump into digital players. It has been hammered by Apple's iPod, as well as by cheaper gadgets and consumer electronics from

other Asian competitors.

With Sony's empire sprawling into finance, movies and other businesses, some analysts said the corporation was losing its focus. In 2006, it recalled nearly 10 million laptop batteries after some caught on fire.

The company is still losing money even as CEO Howard Stringer wins praise for taking it back to basics.

At Japan Airlines, problems had festered for decades but were repeatedly papered over because of Japan's reluctance to let major companies go under.

It became the victim of its own ambitions when risky investments in foreign resorts and hotels went bad after Japan's property and stock bubble burst in the early 1990s. Bloated pension and payroll costs, as well as a network of unprofitable but politically necessary domestic routes, led to government bailouts.

JAL had a good reputation for comfortable travel, but its lavish running costs had "generally been something of an industry joke," said Peter Harbison of the Sydney-based Centre for Asia Pacific Aviation.

Quality, too, eventually proved problematic: A spate of safety lapses tarnished JAL's image, and its rival, All Nippon Airways Co., benefited.

And while filing for bankruptcy with \$25.6 billion in debt was an embarrassment, analysts expect JAL to slim down and emerge healthier.

Toyota, too, will bounce back, they say.

Selling on good news means trouble is brewing

By BERNARD CONDON,

AP Business Writer

NEW YORK – It's the spoiled brat market.

Dozens of companies this past month posted blow-out earnings but instead of being thankful, investors stomped their feet and sold. The result: The Dow Jones industrial average fell 3.5 percent in January, the worst month for stocks since the depths of the bear market last year.

Investors want more, and they want it now.

One explanation for this surprising ingratitude is that they already had bid up stocks to a level that assumed very good profits. So when those expectations were met this past month, well, investors were less than impressed and decided to cash out.

Or maybe fear is driving the selling, too.

Dennis Delafield, co-manager of the \$700 million Delafield Fund, says investors are finally realizing what everyone else has already figured out: The recovery won't be strong.

"Consumers are struggling, unemployment is high and people aren't able to use their homes to raise money," says Delafield, whose fund has returned an average 11.8 percent annually in 10 years. "Growth will be moderate and investors are worried."

One sign of that worry: The VIX, a gauge of expected volatility of Standard & Poor's 500 stocks, jumped 53 percent to 27.3 in the trading

week ended Jan. 22. That's nowhere near the 89.5 it peaked at in October 2008 but was still above its historical average of 18-20.

In the past week, this so-called fear index fell to 24.6 but there still were signs all was not well.

On Thursday, Microsoft Corp. reported profits jumped 60 percent last quarter. Instead of cheers, it got boos. Investors wanted to see higher sales to business customers from the software giant, and so they dumped shares.

Overreaction? Let's hope so.

Investors consider Microsoft a sort of leading economic indicator, figuring that computer makers will only buy from the company if they're optimistic about sales themselves.

The actual numbers on the economy released last week only added to the confusion.

On Wednesday, the government reported new home sales plunged 7.6 percent in December. The next day it said durable goods orders for that month came in below expectations.

On Friday came a whopper: Gross domestic product rose a surprising 5.7 percent in the fourth quarter.

The market slipped anyway. Companies that were rebuilding their inventories during the final three months of the year contributed heavily to that blip up, and investors believe that the quarter's fast rate of growth cannot be sustained.

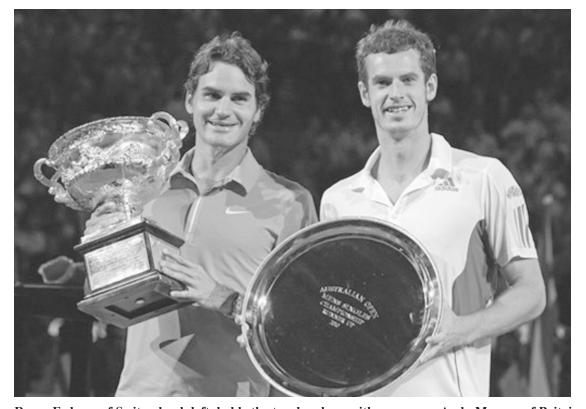
Federer wins 16th major, prolongs British drought

AP Sports Writer MELBOURNE, Australia (AP) — Roger Federer felt awkward for a moment, celebrating his 16th Grand Slam title while Andy Murray cried for Britain.

Federer timed his run to perfection at the season's first major, beating fifth-seeded Murray 6-3, 6-4, 7-6 (11) in the Sunday night final to collect his fourth Australian Open title.

This time last year, Federer was sobbing after a fiveset loss to Rafael Nadal at Melbourne Park. He'd missed a chance to equal Pete Sampras' record of 14 Grand Slams, compounding emotional few weeks.

In the intervening period, he has won on clay at the French Open to complete a



Roger Federer of Switzerland, left, holds the trophy along with runner-up Andy Murray of Britain during the awarding ceremony, after beating Murray to win the Men's singles final match at the Australian Open tennis championship in Melbourne, Australia, Sunday, Jan. 31, 2010. **Associated Press**

career Grand Slam of all four majors and equal the Sampras record. Then he regained his Wimbledon crowd to get the record in his own right at 15. He also became a father of twins.

This time, Murray was on the verge of tears after missing a chance to become the first British man since 1936 to win a major.

The pressure on the 22-yearold Scot had intensified after he'd beaten Nadal in the quarterfinals.

"I thought he was actually doing fine until he told me, 'I think there will be some tears," Federer said of Murray. "I'm like, 'Don't worry, it will be all right.' And he actually did.

Continued on page 14

Rahlves goes down hard in Winter X **Games wreck**

ASPEN, Colorado (AP) — he can come back quickly." Daron Rahlves dislocated his right hip after a nasty wreck in his opening skicross race Sunday at the Winter X Games.

The injury is a setback as Rahlves prepares to compete in Vancouver, but a doctor who checked him out at the scene was optimistic after the crash that resulted in the 36-year-old's fourth hip dislocation.

"People who have multiple hip dislocations, the tissues get so loose and go in and out and it doesn't cause so much damage," said Dr. Kevin Stone, who looked in on Rahlves after the wreck. "Hopefully, that's the situation here and hopefully

U.S. Olympic freestyle skier A few hours after the accident, X Games officials said the hip had been popped back into place, and that Rahlves was putting pressure on it. He was released from the hospital late Sunday afternoon.

Rahlves, a former Alpine skier, qualified for his fourth Olympic team this year and was using the X Games as a final tuneup before the trip to Vancouver.

In his opening race, though, he lost his balance while going over a series of small bumps midway down the mountain and went flying off the course.

Earlier the in week, America's other skicross Olympian, Casey Puckett,



In this Jan. 23, 2010, file photo, Daron Rahlves, of the United States, competes in the men's ski cross qualifying round at the freestyle World Cup in Wilmington, N.Y. Rahlves dislocated his right hip after a nasty wreck in his opening skicross race Sunday, Jan. 31, at the Winter X Games, an injury that could hurt his chances of going to Vancouver. **Associated Press**

landed awkwardly during a run and suffered what he called a minor setback in his recovery from a separated shoulder.

Colts: Freeney recovering from low ankle sprain

By MICHAEL MAROT AP Sports Writer

FORT LAUDERDALE, Fla. - The Indianapolis Colts insist Pro Bowl defensive end Dwight Freeney has a low ankle sprain, not a torn ligament, and that he remains questionable for next weekend's Super Bowl.

Team spokesman Craig Kelley said Sunday night Freeney was being treated in Florida for a basketball-type injury,

"He is under the care of our athletic training staff," Kelley said. "Nothing we have seen changes our diagnosis that he is questionable. He has a third-degree, low basketball sprain."

That would appear to be better news than what team president Bill Polian calls the "dreaded" high-ankle sprain, which can keep players out for about six weeks. Earlier Sunday, ESPN.com reported that Freeney had torn a ligament, which would make it "difficult" for Freeney to play Sunday against New Orleans.

The Colts have been concerned about Freeney since the former league sacks champion injured his right ankle with about 2 minutes left in last week's AFC championship game. He pulled up short of New York Jets quarterback Mark Sanchez on a pass rush, hopped for a couple of steps and then limped off the field.



NHL Roundup

Capitals win 10th straight, beat Lightning 3-2

Ovechkin scored with 6:26 left as the Washington Capitals equaled a franchise record with their 10th straight win Sunday, beating the Tampa Bay Lightning 3-2.

The reigning two-time league most valuable player slid on one knee and into the boards to celebrate his 35th goal of the season, a shot from the slot that beat Mike Smith to the stick side. The score rescued the Capitals after Washington blew a two-goal lead.

Nicklas Backstrom and Brooks Laich also scored for the Capitals, whose doubledigit winning streak matches the team mark set Jan. 27-Feb. 18, 1984. Washington has outscored opponents 47-21 during this run.

Martin St. Louis and Steven Stamkos scored for Tampa

Penguins 2, Red Wings 1, SO At Pittsburgh, Sidney Crosby scored in both regulation time and in a shootout as Pittsburgh overcame Jimmy Howard's second successive 46-save game to beat Detroit in the rivals' first game since Pittsburgh won Game 7 of the Stanley Cup finals.

Daniel Cleary's deflection of Brad Stuart's slap shot midway through the third period sent the game to overtime, where Pittsburgh survived playing short-handed for the final

WASHINGTON (AP) — Alex 1:21. Crosby and Malkin then scored against Howard in the shootout, while both Red Wings shooters — Pavel Datsyuk and Jason Williams - failed against Marc-Andre Fleury, who made 23 saves. The Penguins are 7-0 in shootouts.

Kings 3, Devils 2

At Newark, New Jersey, Wayne Simmonds and defenseman Drew Doughty scored in the final 1:46 to give Los Angeles its sixth straight victory.

Simmonds equalized with 1:46 to play with a long backhander, and Doughty scored the winner on a power play with 27.3 seconds left.

Michal Handzus also scored, and U.S. Olympian Jonathan Quick made 26 saves to help the Kings post the first 5-0 trip in team history. The winning streak is the Kings' longest since also winning six straight in 2002.

Travis Zajac and Johnny Oduya scored for New Jersey. Panthers 2, Islanders 0

At Sunrise, Florida, Tomas Vokoun made 33 saves for his career-high seventh shutout of the season, and Jordan Leopold and Keith Ballard scored for Florida.

Vokoun had four shutouts in January. Rick DiPietro made 23 saves for New York. The Islanders have lost five



Washington Capitals' Alex Ovechkin (8), of Russia, shoots the puck past Florida Panthers' Jordan Leopold (44) during the second period of an NHL hockey game Friday, Jan. 29, 2010, in Washington.

Associated Press



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Monday, February 1, 2010 SPORTS

Federer Wins

Continued from page 12

"In a way it was hard to watch, but at the same time I like seeing players who care for the game. It's nice to see, you know. So you wish only the best for him."

Federer enjoys making history. This was his 22nd Grand Slam final, his 18th in the last 19. He compared this triumph with his win last year at Wimbledon, when he earned the record for most majors in his own right.

"This felt similar in a way, because all of a sudden it was over and it hit me," he said. "It was very much a rollercoaster with the emotions. I guess the match point was over, and I was like, 'Oh, my God, this is it. It was great."

Murray was on the verge of tears, drawing deep breaths as he apologized for failing to end a 74-year-old drought for British men.

"Firstly, congratulations

Roger, his achievements in tennis are incredible," he said. "He was a lot better than me tonight.

"Hopefully, one time I can come back and win here," he added, his voice breaking. "I got great support back home the last couple of weeks. Sorry I couldn't do it for you tonight but ..."

Murray could barely finish his thank you, explaining: "I can cry like Roger; it's just a shame I can't play like him." Federer, who had to be consoled by Nadal last year, offered Murray some reassurance.

"Well done for your incredible tournament; you played it fantastic," Federer said. "You're too good of a player not to win a Grand Slam, so don't worry about it."

Federer dropped serve only twice in the match and hit 46 winners. He said he felt as good as ever.

"I'm over the moon winning this again. I think I played some of my best tennis in my



Andy Murray of Britain reacts as he plays Roger Federer of Switzerland in their Men's singles final match at the Australian Open tennis championship in Melbourne, Australia, Sunday, Jan. 31, 2010. Associated Press

life these last two weeks," he said.

Federer saved five set points and wasted two match points in the tiebreaker with some uncharacteristic shot selection before clinching it when Murray netted a backhand after 2 hours, 41 minutes.

Murray was desperate to become the first British man since Fred Perry in 1936 to win one of the four tennis majors, but seldom had the answers to Federer's unrivaled finals experience. He set a record for British men just by reaching two major finals in the Open era.

"I don't feel great," Murray said. "I think it was more the way the end of the match finished ... Obviously, it was pretty emotional end to the match.

"If it was a complete blowout, if I lost 3, 4, and 2, you know, it probably wouldn't have happened. But I had my chance to get back into the match. That was probably why I was upset."

Federer also beat Murray in straight sets in the 2008 U.S. Open final, the only previous meeting between the pair at a Grand Slam.

Murray still holds a 6-5 advantage over Federer in career head-to-heads — one of only four players who can boast such an advantage — but has lost the last three.

Last year, Federer had just discovered — unknown widely at the time — that he was to be the father of twins.

The emotions bubbled over after his loss to Nadal. But he recovered from that defeat to win at the French Open.

He won Wimbledon before his twin daughters were born. Federer reached his fourth Grand Slam final of the year at the U.S. Open, only to lose in an upset to Juan Martin del Potro.

Federer ensured no recurrence of the upset here, though, adding the 2010 title to his wins at Melbourne Park in 2004, 2006 and '07, becoming only the fifth man to win four Australian titles.

American Andre Agassi, who won the last of his four here in 2003, was the last father to win a Grand Slam title.

"It's also very special the first Grand Slam as a father," Federer said as his wife, Mirka, smiled and clapped from the stands, almost crying herself. "You get the best out of me."

Federer got on top early, taking a 2-0 lead. But Murray broke back immediately with consecutive passing shots — one which the Swiss star even had to applaud.

Federer had to save three break points in the fifth game before holding with back-to-back aces. He then broke Murray

in the eighth game, lifting his intensity in perfect time so that he could serve for the set.

Federer dominated the second set after breaking Murray's serve in the third game, but his intensity dropped slightly in the third.

Murray pounced, taking a 5-2 lead before Federer rallied again, winning four of the next five games to force the tiebreaker.

After saving three set points,

Federer missed his first chance to finish it off when his curling forehand just missed the line. His unusual decision to try a drop shot at 10-9 backfired when Murray surged to the net and put a winner over

The Swiss saved another set point, then converted his third match point.

Federer's head.

In the mixed doubles final, Leander Paes and Cara Black beat Ekaterina Makarova and Jaroslav Levinsky 7-5, 6-3 for the Australian title.

The top seeds fared well at the Australian Open, with Serena Williams defending her singles title over Justine Henin and combining with her sister Venus Williams to win doubles — the sisters were seeded No. 2.

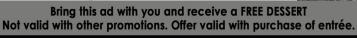
Another set of American siblings won the men's doubles, with twins Bob and Mike Bryan beating Daniel Nestor and Nenad Zimonjic.





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Beat LA? Not this time for Celtics

By JIMMY GOLEN AP Sports Writer

BOSTON – Kobe Bryant sank a go-ahead fallaway jumper with 7.3 seconds left to give the Los Angeles Lakers a 90-89 victory over Boston on Sunday and send the struggling Celtics to their sixth loss in eight games.

The Celtics, who led by 11 points in the fourth quarter, nursed a one-point lead until Paul Pierce was called for an offensive foul for pushing off as he jumped to shoot with 28 seconds left.

Bryant, who shot just 8 for 20 in the game, dribbled down the shot clock before stepping back from defender Ray Allen and making a basket to give Los Angeles the lead.

Bryant finished with 19, and Andrew Bynum had 19 points and 11 rebounds.

Rajon Rondo had 21 points and 12 assists for the

Celtics

The Celtics led 81-70 before the Lakers made the next four baskets. Rasheed Wallace hit a 3-pointer — his only basket of the game — to stop the run, and it was still a three-point game with less than two minutes left when Bryant hit a pair of free throws to make it 87-86.

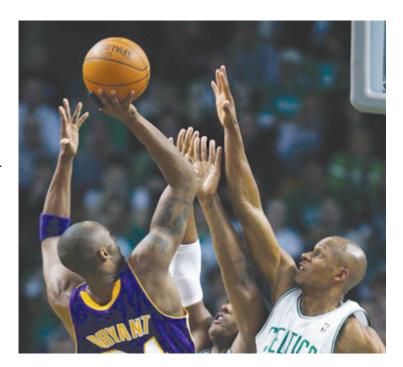
It was 89-88 when Pierce was called for pushing off. Bryant, who complained of a sore ankle after Friday night's win in Philadelphia, gave the Lakers the lead, then Allen's 3-point attempt at the final buzzer bounced harmlessly off the rim.

Pau Gasol had 11 points and 11 rebounds for the Lakers, who won their fourth straight game and beat Boston for the third consecutive time since losing Game 6 of the 2008 NBA finals to watch the Celtics clinch their 17th championship.

Pierce scored 15, Kevin Garnett had 10 with nine rebounds and Kendrick Perkins finished with eight points and 10 boards for the Celtics, who were coming off losses to Orlando and Atlanta — two of the top four teams in the Eastern Conference — that left them at 6-10 since beating the Magic on Christmas Day.

Garnett missed 10 of those games with a hyperextended right knee, and Boston was 4-6 without him. But Garnett's return hasn't solved all the Celtics' problems.

The Celtics fell behind 22-10 in the first quarter, when Bynum scored 12 points, and trailed 40-34 midway through the second before scoring the next 15 points. Rondo had nine points and eight assists in the quarter and was in double digits in both by halftime.





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SPURIS DE TROIDAR

In 24 Hours, Action Express Racing a quick winner

ANTONIO GONZALEZ
Associated Press Writer
DAYTONA BEACH,
Florida (AP) — Joao Barbosa
powered Action Express
Racing to the 24 Hours
of Daytona title Sunday,
finishing an improbable
victory in the organization's
first appearance in the sports
car endurance race.

The newly formed team avoided major mechanical problems and benefited from a late blunder by star-studded Chip Ganassi Racing to win by 50 seconds. No other car was within four laps of the winner.

Ganassi's Justin Wilson was leading before he made an illadvised stop into the garage late, believing something was wrong with the No. 01 BMW Riley. The crew didn't find anything, and the difference was too much for teammate Scott Pruett to make up in the final two hours.

The group that has dominated the race recently could only watch as it lost to a team with few sponsors that, weeks ago, didn't exist.

"What can I say? I'm out of words," Barbosa said. "The teammates, the crew, they did a great job. Action Express rocks and it's going to keep going through the year."

The group was formed in the offseason after Brumos Racing cut back to a one-car team. That prompted longtime Brumos affiliate Bob Johnson to assemble Action Express Racing, bringing some crew and drivers over.

"This is amazing," Johnson said minutes before the finish. "I can't even begin to describe it."

The move paid off quicker than anyone expected. Barbosa, Ryan Dalziel, Terry Borcheller and Mike Rockenfeller deftly guided the No. 9 Porsche Riley through a rain-soaked start Saturday that caused cautions and spin outs for much of the field. They avoided accidents and poor pit stops that pushed so many others behind, and they didn't succumb to the pressure in the final hours.



Action Express Racing drivers, from left, Mike Rockenfeller, of Germany; Ryan Dalziel, of Scotland; Joao Barbosa, of Portugal; and Terry Borcheller celebrate after winning the Rolex 24 hour auto race at Daytona International Speedway in Daytona Beach, Fla., Sunday, Jan. 31, 2010.

Associated Press

"I think as a new team to come here, I think it's a huge accomplishment to our crew," Dalziel said. "A lot of these guys only came together at the start of January."

Ganassi had three straight wins in the prestigious endurance race until finishing second the last two years. The biggest blow it took in this one was self-inflicted.

Wilson pulled the car into the garage with about three hours remaining after he said he heard a popping noise. Crew members scurried to find a problem, losing the lead and falling behind by a lan

"I heard a loud clank and the car kind of whacked," Wilson said. "I thought I'd blown a front tire or something like that, and being so close to the garage, I figured I'd pull it in."

That was the second disappointment of the race for the favored Ganassi team.

Ganassi's No. 02 car retired in the early morning hours because of engine failure. Drivers Juan Pablo Montoya, Dario Franchitti, Scott Dixon and Jamie McMurray had led a combined 139 of the opening

247 laps.

Then suddenly, stunningly, they were out.

"I did well at times and I struggled at times," said McMurray, who lost some ground before Montoya took the wheel back and the engine failed. "I didn't want to be the guy who runs the car off and messes it up for everybody else."

Holding off Ganassi's made the victory even sweeter for Action Express Racing.

To beat the best so fast in a race that's so long, there was no room for mistakes. From weaving through the 3.56-mile road course that encompasses about three-fourths of Daytona International Speedway's NASCAR track, to fast pit stops and accelerating on the straightaways, Action Express did it better for longer than anybody.

Playing spoilers was fun, too.

As Dalziel deadpanned moments after passing off the driver's seat for the final time, "Nobody wants to see Ganassi win again. Somebody different needs to win."

On Top Of The News

Email: news@arubatoday.com

Monday, February 1, 2010

Special research program presented by University of Aruba students When **Exploring the roots of Aruba's Carnival music**

Beauty comes

from

within



By: Roland W. Peterson Photo: Chibi van der Hans Dedicated to Queen Alina Mansur

Cheers fill the air The new Queen is born A beautiful smile instead of a frown Then, the final act of last year's Queen Never before seen by me Her personal prize as donation to the Red Cross for those in Haiti Compassion takes place A reminder not to forsake that stricken place That's her proudest moment at carnival's ball Now beauty wears the crown for life and forever she'll reign as the Queen of all A beautiful gesture on her part Compassion for life Her gift from the heart That's when beauty

comes from within.

By Rosalie Klein

Aruba Today

ORANJESTAD- The University

of Aruba added a new course of study with the opening of the school year, the Faculty of Arts and Science, offering a Liberal Arts program. The

first year of FAS students were offered an elective module of Professional and Society Practice (PSP), with a goal of "fostering academic excellenceconcerning

and responsible democratic citizenship." On Friday, January 29, three groups presented the results of their first research assignment "Democracy in Action; Political and Social Awareness as Reflected in Aruban and Caribbean Carnival Songs." Each group explored the principal rhythms of Carnival: Calypso, Tumba and Roadmarch, recounting for their audience the origins and evolutions of these distinct musical forms, and the cultural implications for

effective social participation

Faculty Chair Person for the study, Clementia Eugene and Dean Paula of FAS opened the presentations with general remarks of the quality of political commentary embodied by the three musical forms, and their wide cultural impact.

Arubans, particularly succeeding

generations.

Continued on page 4

Clown **Doctors** reach a new level

ORANJESTAD clowns of the Clown Doctors of Aruba are getting better and better in treating sick children with a laugh. Coordinator Wim van den Wijngaert is teaching them a weekly workshop to improve their skills. Last Wednesday the group had to improvise non-verbally, going all-out in the creative department.

The Clown Doctors visit the children's ward, Dununman, Casa Cuna, Maris Stella and Pavillion on a regular basis, bringing rays of sunlight, smiles and fun.





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Acqua Condominiums Aruba report accelerated construction pace

Condominiums Aruba report that the first wing of the East Tower has reached the highest point of construction.

Developers have just poured the 14th floor concrete beams, and are gearing up for the construction.

Mid-year, Acqua Condominium Aruba will be pouring the foundation for the South Tower, and begin work on community amenities such as the lagoon-style

launch of the second wing pool and tropical garden, the club house, business center, spa, restaurant and grand lobby, followed by the debut of the North Tower and the completion of the entire ambitious project by 2012.

> Built of 30.278 m2 of property land this exciting condominium project continues to attract buyers and investors, lured by the upscale elegance of complex Mansions, Penthouses, Suites, Studios and Residences.

> General Manager Jenner Florez and Managing Director Oscar Helmeyer report that the development company is planning on doubling its workmen capacity within the next few weeks. Construction specialists recently laid off by the oil refinery will find new employment at Acqua Condominiums as plumbers, electricians and carpenters join the force in order to work on the building interiors.

> "Work on the site has been in full swing since January when construction workers returned from their well-deserved Christmas vacation," explains Helmeyer. "And we are at the moment negotiation with the department of labor to extend the number of work hours to 18 a day, maintaining two full-shifts of laborers, and resulting in accelerated construction pace."

Acqua Condominium Aruba began construction year ago, and has been met with great enthusiasm from the get go. A stylish and contemporary sales center on Palm Beach, on the construction site, includes a number of model apartments

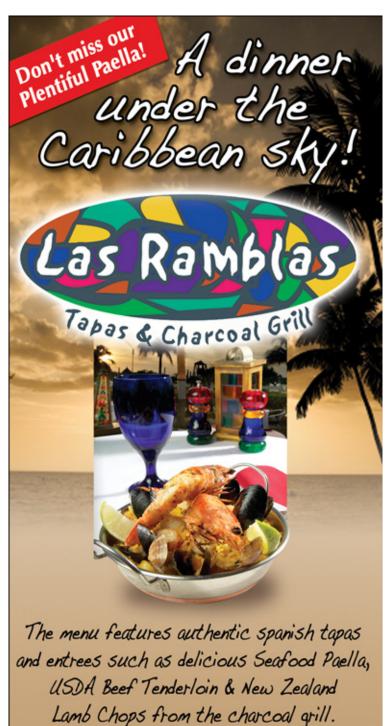
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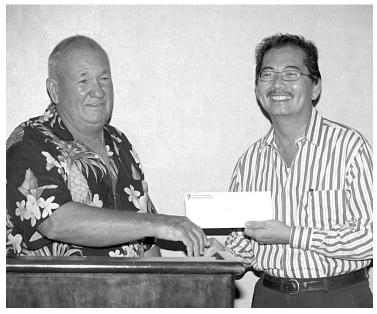
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Friends of the Handicapped are back on Aruba!

One more week for a chance to win big on Superbowl Sunday





By Rosalie Klein ARUBA TODAY

ORANJESTAD- Over 20 years ago, a group of loyal island visitors led by Keith and Wilma Jones founded Friends of the Handicapped, which is dedicated to "giving back" to Aruba for all the happy memories the island has given them.

on, but this small and dedicated group of community activists still spends their winter months on Aruba working for the betterment of the island community. Now lead by President Art Stark and his wife Alma, the board includes Philip Solomon, Sal and Maryann La Carruba, Pauline Daley, and David and Tana Ulmschneider. Arubans Anoushka Maduro of the Casa Del Mar and Marcelino Kock have been essential to their

success, and Jean and Huguette Vateiquette are high-spirited volunteers who eagerly donate their vacation time for the cause. Some of the FOTH members have bought houses on Aruba, but FOTH originated with members of the Aruba Beach Club, and now includes owners at the Casa Del Mar, Costa Linda and Playa Linda.

funds through donations at the weekly Mass at the CDM, and by conducting their famous Superbowl Sunday lottery.

Eventually, they added their always-popular Sweetheart's Valentine's Day Dinner/Dance, and in recent years, a fundraising

bingo night.

Each year FOTH raises

FOTH volunteers can be found manning the boards in the Casa Del Mar lobby each day, offering the opportunity to win either the grand prize of \$750 or \$250 on a reverse score for a \$20 investment, of which 100% is donated to a worthy cause. Originally, Friends of the Handicapped lived up to their name by donating to local organizations dedicated to the care of the physically and mentally challenged, but with the help of Jan Veneman of Centro pa Desaroyo Social di Aruba (CEDE)-the Center for Social Development of Aruba, they have expanded they contributions to various worthy organizations assisting children, elderly, the Red Cross and more. Over the years, their increased efforts and new events have allowed them to assist a greater range of those in need. After twenty years

surpassed the \$1,000,000 mark in donations.

Along with Superbowl Lottery tickets, one can also obtain tickets to this year's Sweetheart Dinner Dance in the Radisson Resort Ballroom for only \$90, which includes a cocktail hour, gift for the ladies, a three-course dinner including wine and dancing to popular island band NBO. Because the final Grand Carnival Parade in Oranjestad is on Valentine's Day, this fun evening has been scheduled for Saturday, February 20, allowing lovers to give each other their undivided attention and show that any day is a great day to show your love. As usual, Nash Malwani of Noble Jewelers has donated a fabulous diamond ring, which will be raffled at the dance; raffle tickets can be only purchased that night. During the evening, scores of great prizes generously donated by island vendors will be raffled; these tickets cost \$10 and can be purchased prior to the event and awarded to those present that night. FOTH also conducts a special \$100 raffle with a grand prize of \$2000 cash, which can also be purchased beforehand; you need not be present to win.



will be conducted on Thursday evening, February 25 at the Renaissance Convention Center in Oranjestad, which also includes a raffle for prizes such as dinners for two, excursions and gift certificates.

The efforts of Friends of the Handicapped are a fine example of residents and businesses working with island visitors to assist the less fortunate. Over the years they have lost beloved members and others have joined, most recently, Pat and Marcia Finck of Massachusetts are donating their time. FOTH can always use another hand and welcomes new volunteers interested in their important work.

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Sunday

Anuba TODAY

Special research program presented by University of Aruba students

Exploring the roots of Aruba's Carnival music



By Rosalie Klein

Aruba Today

ORANJESTAD- The University of Aruba added a new course of study with the opening of the school

year, the Faculty of Arts and Science, offering a Liberal Arts program. The first year of FAS students were offered an elective module of Professional and Society Practice (PSP), with a goal of "fosteringacademic excellence concerning effective social participation and responsible democratic citizenship."

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results of their first research assignment "Democracy in Action; Political and Social Awareness Reflected in Aruban and Caribbean Songs." Carnival Each group explored the principal rhythms of Carnival: Calypso, Tumba and Roadmarch, recounting for their audience the origins and evolutions of these distinct musical forms, and the cultural implications for Arubans, particularly succeeding generations.

Faculty Chair Person for the study, Clementia Eugene and Dean Paula of FAS opened the presentations with general remarks of the quality political commentary embodied by the three musical forms, and their wide cultural impact. The student groups gave more in depth information regarding their migration to Aruba with the workers of the Lago Refinery, and how they eventually became integrated into the local culture, evolving distinctive characteristics from the influence of the local mindset

The best example of this and the controversy among musician it generates is Calypso, of which the history and evolution was presented by Junaykah Angela, Yorenne Arends, Charlene Bontekoe, Chantelle Fortin, Genevieve Garcia, Nicole Godett, David Leer and Tyson Lopez.

An organized, united Carnival has existed in Aruba since 1957, but a Calypso contest and "king" (this year, a queen) has been a part of the festivities since 1964. According to academics who have studied Calypso, it "dates from the time when slaves were preparing for liberations. They made up songs about local and political events, and figures to do with the emancipation movement and their oppressors." (R. Greenwood, 1981.





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LOCAL B5 Monday, February 1, 2010

Continued from page 4

This sort of topical commentaryisbestappreciated within the environment it describes. However, there exists another kind of calypso with more universal subject matter, reflecting humor, fantasy and sexual escapades. Many of these songs have even popular on U.S. music charts and around the world. The Calypso that is judged during Aruba's contests originated in Trinidad, where the lyrics used developed from Spanish, Yoruba, Ashanti and Creole, but in Aruba, Calypso has evolved to include Papiamento and Dutch colloquialisms, reflecting the island's native languageandmulticulturalism. Though there is controversy regarding the purity of Aruba's present day Calypso, music academician Victoria Razak argues it "is a mouthpiece for socio-political commentary, reflecting the salient concerns of the different groups and geographic regions of the island...music cannot prevented from innovation and development the long term." Gregory Richardson, who lectured during the research program, also pointed out that local musician use these languages as a form of inclusion for their audience. "The crowd then becomes stockholder of the cultural product." Once Carnival is over, the popular calypso songs and contest winners are rarely heard on the radio.

Tumba, as observed by the group consisting of Marjoli Ruiz, Indira Bruke, Aldrich Kelly, Marlyn Croes, Stephanie Croes, Anastasia Angela and Karl Michael de Cuba, would appear to be a disappearing art form within another generation. resourceful group surveyed their peers on Facebook and found from 177 responses the majority had no idea what Tumba was.

Tumba traveled to the Caribbean from Africa with the slaves, as did most of these musical forms. According to the study group, it is a joyous call to the community





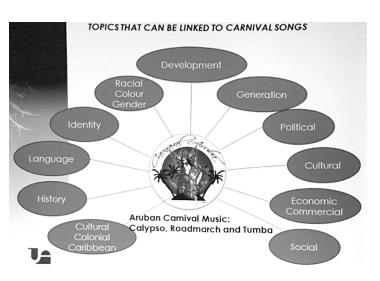
to come and celebrate. They dated Tumba as promulgating in the Caribbean in the mid-18th century. The suppression by the elite classes in Haiti influenced the popular and earthier Rumba of Cuba near the turn of the century, and by 1803, following the Haitian revolution; a more "Tumba Frances" refined had evolved. This eventually traveled to Aruba through Curacao with the founding of the refinery and the influx of workers. Though there is a Tumba contest during Carnival, according to Vanya Oduber, "Tumba is a Latin musical genre typical for Aruba, Bonaire and Curação." It should not be confused with Tambu, from which it differs completely; Tambu is a ritual. Notable is the observance that Tumba, unlike Calypso and Road March music, has not greatly evolved on Aruba since its introduction to Carnival in 1970, and it existed as a popular musical

The final group discussed

from long before.

what are, perhaps, the most beloved songs of the three genres, Road March songs. Each year, an official winner is selected that is performed during the final parades, but radio DJ's usually select another song they favor, which earns the title of "Road Jam," often performed during parades as well. The group consisting of Consuela Cameron, Emely Geerman, Emmeline Webb, Esmeralda Kelly, Jaclyn Agunbero, Janella Chong, Jenny Donata, Nemesis Trapenberg, and Shayna Figaroa examined the works of Lord Boxeo, Mighty Talent and Master Gustso, Road March Kings and composers of the past years, and found a distinct evolution in the art from since 1971.

Lord Boxeo works were lengthy; slow and meandering, they usually involved story telling, most often dealing with the African Diaspora. 1984 saw the emergence of Claudius Phillips, known as Mighty Talent, which brought about a revolution in Road





March; something for which he was harshly criticized at first, but became immensely popular. By this point, judges were imposing a four minute time limit, the rhythms were much faster, and the lyrics noticeably happier. In 2000, Master Gusto introduced the concept of commands, which often dominate the Road March at present, and

demonstrate a very strong Soca beat. "Do the Wiper," "Jump with your Towel" and other commands allow the audience to participate in the song. During parties and festive events throughout the year, it is not unusual to hear Road March songs being played, which definitely contribute to an upbeat ambiance.



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Aruba_TODAY

HUMAN HINTS: Logic Emotion Balance

As Humans, we each juggle a different balance of logic and emotion, and we each have different triggers that affect the balance we must maintain. Thoughts and emotions guide our daily actions and form life as we know it. It is important to understand the balance between these fundamental forces, and learn to use them to improve our lives.

Logic and emotion are always acting on us, directing and manipulating our every decision. People act and react differently because of the personal balance they find between these two fundamental forces. In order to gain control of our lives, we must gain control over the balance, the dynamic interplay that leads to our actions and our lives as we know them.

A lover's jealousy is an obvious example of emotion without logic. The logic of that situation tells us that it is simply an unexpected detour in life, and the best thing is to get away from the situation and start life in a new direction. The emotion

of jealousy, however, has caused the destruction of countless kingdoms throughout history. On the other side of the extreme, soldiers must act based solely on logic. If they allow emotion to enter their decisions, the lack of logic can easily get them killed.

Now that the obvious examples have us all on the same page, how can we incorporate this knowledge into our daily lives?

To learn about yourself, start by watching others. Pay attention to each person's logic/emotion balance. Watch their mannerisms and

Watch their mannerisms and facial expressions, listen for hints in their words. Observe the decisions they make, based on their emotional/logical balance.

What is the goal behind decisions they make and actions they take? Do their decisions and actions lead them closer to their goal, or further?

Once we learn to recognize the balance and it's affect on others, we will begin to recognize it in ourselves. When we learn to recognize an imbalance within ourselves, we take the first step toward consciously controlling the balance between logic and emotion that will influence our decisions and actions.

When we are faced with unexpected situations, our logical/emotional balance can be thrown in one direction or another, depending on all the aspects of who we are. Once the balance is gone, we want to act impulsively, without consideration of the consequences of our actions, on ourselves and others.

To enhance your life, it is important to find balance before you decide and act. It may take days, weeks, even years, but it is important to not act based purely on either emotion or logic.

When a person acts without balance, they always end up hurting themselves.

When you're out of balance, think of the consequences of your actions, then think of your desired goal or situation. Do your actions bring you closer to your goal, or get you further away?

Action without balance always brings people further from their goals and makes them harder to achieve.

Until Tomorrow...

~Quentin Danziger

Quentin has over 20 years experience balancing what we refer to as the Real World, with science and spirit. He has held positions of responsibility and authority, received a Bachelor of Science in Engineering Physics from Colorado School of Mines.

and has also studied many avenues of alternative thought.

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The French Steakhouse delivers dining under the stars



Eagle Beach - The French Steakhouse at the Manchebo Beach Resort & Spa just added another charming dining option, a tropical outdoor courtyard, featuring delicious cuisine under the stars.

The famed French Steakhouse prides itself on the elegant dining experience it offers patrons in the fully airconditioned dining room. Yet recently the idea of adding a garden spot to the existing blueprint began to sprout in the creative mind of Executive Chef George Hoek, and he immediately recruited the landscapers to create the intimate, lovely setting.

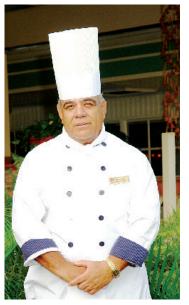
The French Steakhouse Ooh-La-La menu is now served indoor and alfresco, featuring creative appetizers, soups, salads, seafood dishes, poultry and the Pièce de Résistance South American & USDA Beef specialties.

Among popular appetizers the chef's Tropical Crab Cakes with pineapple & mango salsa and the Teriyaki Glazed Seared Duck Breast, served with garden greens and balsamic dressing, are real crowd pleasers.

True to the restaurant's French roots, the Onion Soup

is a classic, while the Honey Glazed Salmon Salad winks at the exotic East with a sweet soy dressing.

The menu features a great variety of seafood dishes from fresh fish to the totally sinful amazingly-decadent Caribbean Stuffed Shrimp with Crabmeat and Bacon, which became an instant hit. The tequila and sweet chili glaze, lends the Jumbo shrimp a pure taste of heaven!



The French Steakhouse is naturally famous for the South American Churrasco steak, a signature preparation, which now shares the stage with juicy USDA beef specialties such as NY Sirloin and Filet Mignon.

Light-eaters will find the Jerk Chicken Skewers and the Lemon Herb Broilers very satisfying.

Open seven days a week from 5:30 p.m. - 11:00 p.m. the French Steakhouse is blessed with the nicest staff and a delightfully renovated dining

Pega Pega Café & Beach Bar

room with sparkling China, crisp linen, an interesting bread basket, colossal desserts and live jazz on piano with Eddy Samson who is Aruba's best entertainer, and a walking & breathing music encyclopedia, just whistle the tune, and Eddy will produce a symphonic version of your favorite song.

Hungry patrons appreciate the Ambassador's 5-couse menu featuring the run of the menu highlights for just \$34.95 per person. www. manchebo.com.steakhouse



Giorgio's Ristorante Italiano **introduces Menu Turistico**

Eagle Beach -- Giorgio's Ristorante Italiano located at the heart of the low-rise hotels at the Manchebo Beach Resort & Spa, delivers authentic Mediterranean flavors, at a reasonable

The restaurant has just introduced Menu Turistico a threecourse dinner featuring appetizers, main courses and desserts for just \$19.95, per person, plus 15% service charge.

Patrons may choose between home made soup and Caesar salad, Fettuccini Alfredo, Lasagna Casarecia, Spaghetti alla Bolognese or any favorite pizza with Tiramisu, Cheese Cake or Ice Cream for the sweet finale.

Executive Chef George Hoek is the resort's muchappreciated culinary expert. He was the recent recipient of a Lifetime Achievement Award, presented by the Aruba Hotel & Tourism Association in collaboration with the Digicel Group. Chef George accepted the Shoco Award, the national award of excellence, and Aruba's top professional decoration, in the tourism industry.

reinvents Beach Cuisine Café & Beach Bar

Eagle Beach – Pega Pega Café & Beach Bar at the Manchebo Beach Resort & Spa is widely recognized as the home of Beach Cuisine.

Executive Chef George Hoek and his culinary team serve a Sun Splashed menu on the ocean front terrace, raising the restaurant to a must-visit, must-try status.



The contemporary menu, lists many favorite dishes from around the world, borrowing inspiration from US, Mexican, Thai, Jamaican, Cuban, Greek and Mediterranean kitchens, all served with a tropical, Caribbean flair.

From Sun-Sational Salads, to



Cuban pressed jawbreakers and wraps, mid-day platters also include oversize Beef Burgers, Philly Cheese Steak Sandwiches and Hot Dogs.

The Pega Pega tropical & frozen cocktail list, with fresh fruit or ice cream smoothies, daiquiris, coladas margaritas, leaves nothing out, including Yellow Birds, Sex on the Beach and Mudslides, making a lunch-time brainfreeze, extremely easy to get! The Pega Pega, one of Aruba oldest beach bars is open on fabulous Eagle Beach, with unrivaled views, caring, gracious service, and relaxed atmosphere, from 12 noon to 5 p.m. The bar is open from 11 a.m. to 11 p.m.

Aruba TODAY

The Palm Beach Plaza Food Court offers terrific light meals and snacks









BEACH -- Patrons visiting the brand new Palm Beach Plaza flock to the third floor food court in search of its delicious and affordable food offerings. The food court invites shoppers to unleash their passion for giant burgers at the American Burger bar, the ultimate burger den, offering over 15 different burgers, some of the best in Aruba, to be devoured on the casual, comfortable terrace or to be taken-out to homes and hotel rooms.Next door to the American Burger bar at Sciuè Sciuè owner Fabrizio Battaglia serves traditional Neapolitan snacks, authentic Italian finger foods, fresh-made pizza, and just-tossed pasta specials. Sciuè Sciuè guarantees convenience without sacrificing quality, taste, or real Italian flair





For dessert Churromania, an ultra-popular Latin American franchise, serves crispy, sugary Spanish churros, which are irresistible topped with a variety of sinful treats and downstairs on

the mall's ground floor Mimo's ice cream boasts tropical fruity treasures made into delicious frozen desserts.

While three outlets are cooking from 2 p.m. to 10 p.m., work on Bon Chicken, Beef'es, the Chubby Panda and Aladdin Shoarma Express continues at full speed, reports tenant relations manager Indra Stamper, who extends an invitation to locals and visitors to try the goodies at the Palm Beach Plaza, while shopping.Bon Chicken will serve a wide selection of combo meals featuring grilled and fried chicken accompanied by a number of great sides, including French fries, yucca, corn, plantains, rice, and a variety of salads while Beef'es is an Argentinean parrilla, a grill specifically designed to broil meat to perfection, delivering authentic meat-lovers experience.

The Chubby Panda, is gearing to serve an interesting branch of Oriental food, importing a Taiwanese Chef to cook, as the main attraction. The outlet will serve dishes typically prepared by street vendors in Taiwan's markets. And fans of Arabic food will delight in the shoarma and falafel outlet. Aladdin, Shoarma Express will deliver authentic Arabic fast-food, from kibbe to tahini, hummus, babaganoush, labne and tabule, to a complete selection of Arabic sweets.





Adam Steinfeld live tonight!

Don't miss Magic & Comedy tonight at the Westin



STEINFELD: 'MAGIC LIVE!' Theater-of-illusions show... now at the WESTIN -Aruba, see it live! 9pm nightly NightMagic-Comedy- Master of illusions. PREPARE to Witness TOP-Class Illusions, Magic & Comedy on Stage. Adam Steinfeld's Magic Live!® show, at the WESTIN Aruba...'Sensational!', 'Amazingly Funny!'...the Hottest ticket in Town! A Must See"

'BEST MAGIC SHOW, I've seen in ages...and I hate Magic!
- Carol Butz, Belair, Maryland.

'MagicLive!...is Hip-Comedy Entertainment, Adam is the ultimate Modern Magician' - Jacque Polak, CBS-TV. Steinfeld sophisticated cardsharp street magic, mixed with grand theater illusions is a visual feast...this will be the highlight of your vacation. -Al Blanchard, mystery novelist, Boston, MA.

Steinfeld's, comedy magician, likable on-stage personality, comic interactive-wit, and amazing magic, mixed with his dream-like theatre-of-

illusions, is a sensory overload of the imagination, along with his lovely dancers...a treat for the entire family.

SEE IT LIVE! On-Stage!

"It's obvious Adam's real passion is performing in front of a live audience, as his charisma and charm create an unforgettable show!" Steinfeld is a 'Master of Magic', he invents many of his own Las Vegas illusions that are designed in England, fabricated in Vegas, and travels with him on tour, in a explosion of amazing fun.

THE MUST-SEE SHOW - YOU DON'T WANT TO MISS IT! AROUND THE WORLD AND BACK, Adam Steinfeld: 'MAGIC LIVE!', from Monte Carlo, Hong Kong, Orlando, Miami Beach, Biloxi, Boston, San Juan, New York, Aruba to Vegas, it's the coolest show in town, taking up where Houdini left off."

MAGIC-GRANDILLUSION - COMEDY

11A > 12

IF YOU GO

What: Magic Live! theater-of-illusions show Where: Westin - Aruba, palm beach (high-rise area) Who: starring, comedy illusionist, Adam Steinfeld

Time: 9:00 pm, theater opens at 8:30pm

Tickets: at the door

Price: \$19.95 under 15, \$29.5 adults

Group Sales: 561-1090 website: www.MagicLive.com Blog: www.MagicOnTheBeach.com

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marans.

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day with the Discover Scuba Dive Course, get PADI certified or join us on our daily one and two tank dives.Red Sail Sports is Aruba's lead-ing dive and watersports oper-ator. Activity desks are located at the Hyatt Regency, Marriott Resorts and on Renaissance Island.

To make reservations call 586-1603 or go to www. redsail-aruba.com. Be sure to visit one of Red Sail Sports' stores for the latest in swimwear, beach essentials, T-shirts and souvenirs.

Aruba_TODAY

The best Brazilian Steakhouse in Aruba! Serving the Island's most exquisite deserts...

The best salad bar can be found in Texas



PALM BEACH – The health and calorie conscious among us need fear steakhouses no more. Whether it's a low-carb, low-fat, or even vegetarian diet you follow, Texas de Brazil Churrascaria fits into just about every dieter's menu plan. Low carb eaters will have all their expectations surpassed with a tempting carnivorous selection of umpteen cuts of sizzling beef, pork, lamb, sausage, and poultry. The meats are prepared in the healthistyle of cooking-slow roasting-where much of the fat drips off in the roasting process, so those looking for a lower fat option to sautéing, pan frying, or deep frying will also be able to indulge. The Brazilian-style steakhouse alsooffersupagardenfullofhealthy eats on a lavish 40-item seasonal salad bar, giving dieters plenty to

choose from to accompany the

slow-roasted meats. A selection of fresh lettuces and vegetables may be standard for most salad bars, but Texas de Brazil's version goes a gourmet twist further, treating the palate to additional items like marinated portabella mushrooms, sweet roasted bell peppers, hearts of palm, sundried tomatoes, imported cheeses-including fresh buffalo mozzarella—sushi, homemade soups, and much more. The salad bar is included in the continuous service meal with unlimited choices from the grilled meats, but for vegetarians or the non-meat eaters, a special price is offered for just the salad bar. Of course, for those looking to splurge while on vacation, Texas de Brazil will gladly serve their garlic mashed potatoes, traditional fried plantains, and their world-famous parmesan cheese bread as part of the meal.

Restaurant
open daily
Monday - Sat 6 pm - 11
Sunday 5 pm - 11 pm

For more information or to
make reservations, please
call 586-4686.





Fine & Affordable Dining at Pam Pam Restaurant

Meet Chef Ludwich Samson and his exquisite menu now unveiled!

of working under his mentor, Vittorio Muscarlello, owner of

Hostaria Da'Vittorio and one

of the most highly respected

In his two months with Pam

chefs on Aruba.



Nestled in the quiet neighborhood of Boegoeroei, Perle d'Or apartment complex houses Dutch students and vacationers, as well as a cozy garden eatery, Pam Pam Restaurant & Bar. Aiming to attract a more diverse clientele, Pam has recently adopted a more upscale dining concept. In order to pilot this new concept, rising local chef Ludwich Samson was brought on board, and in just two months on the job, he has

more than proven his worth.

Laid-back, refreshingly young, and ambitious, Ludwich began his career as a chef by enrolling in Aruba's hospitality and culinary arts school—the best decision he has ever made, he wholeheartedly claims. With ten years in the kitchen and three years as a chef, Ludwich has developed an impressive arsenal of cooking skills. He attributes the majority of his growth as a chef to his years

Pam, Ludwich has entirely remodeled the kitchen to make it more efficient. He has also created a whole new menu featuring particularly unique dishes in order to distinguish Pam Pam from the endless number of restaurants along Aruba's hotel strip. While the menu still offers Dutch snacks and typical Dutch platters like sate to appease the many Dutch interns residing at Perle d'Or, the rest of the menu offers upscale fusion cuisine. Lemon grass and chillies give several seafood dishes a Thai flair; homemade ravioli and beef carpaccio salute

Italy; crustacean ceviche

adds a Peruvian element; and

Indonesian spices add zest

to a handful of casual main

Ludwich also craftily adds little unexpected twists to some classic dishes, elevating the uniqueness of his menu. One of his personal favorites is his porcini-crusted filet mignon served with a thyme red-wine reduction. He also delights in the fact that most diners have a hard time figuring out the sweet and spicy deliciousness of his signature crustacean platter. Other interesting interpretations include lumpcrab lollipops, chicken cordon blue unorthodoxly stuffed with ricotta and bacon, and for dessert, tiramisu that promises an untraditional layer of decadent Bailey's chocolate mousse.

Needless to say, Ludwich is creative in the kitchen and works extremely hard, currently putting in 12 to 16 hours a day, seven days a week; but he insists that this is not what makes a good chef good. "I simply love what



I do for a living," confides Ludwich, and this is what guarantees success in the kitchen and contented diners. Of course, being a chef can be downright stressful, but Ludwich thrives on the rush of adrenaline on busy nights. And when he peers out of the kitchen and sees a restaurant full of people enjoying their meals, he experiences immense satisfaction. reservations call: 5877710 or 7483848, or visit us at www. pampamaruba.com.



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INDOOR & OPEN AIR

King Kong Cash slot machines, a monster addition to Cool Casino





ALOHA BRIDGE CLUB ARUBA (ABCA)

RESULTS THURSDAY, 14 JANUARY 2010

A total of 15 pairs attended the morning bridge session at the Members Lounge of the Aruba Beach Club Resort.

The following guest players attended: Betty Domes, Denise and Wayne Lambert, Fay and Carl Kallina, Janice and Jan Smink, Maxine Lusk, Terry and Roy Westmoreland, Pete Otterman and Byron Siegel.

The results 50% and higher are as follows:

- 1 Annette Ybeles / Joke Henriquez 64.17 %
- 2 Fay Kallina / Maxine Lusk 55.56 %
- 3 Stascha Hornix / Geke In 't Veld 53.75 %
- 4 Betty Domes / Carl Kallina 53.47 % Ghislane Mendes / Iola Tjin-Tham-Sjin 53.47 % Denise and Roy Lambert 53.47 %
- 5 Janice and Jan Smink 51.74 % Nelly Aal / Gerry Meenhorst 51.74 %
- 6 Sheila Lampe / Edith Henriquez 51.67 %
- 7 Maritza van Romondt / Willy Flanegin 50.83 %.

The Friday evening bridge session had to be cancelled; hence no results

Aloha Bridge Club Aruba meets twice a week: on Thursday mornings at the Members Lounge of the Aruba Beach Club, starting at 9.00 am and on Friday evenings at the Frank Conway Room of Casa del Mar starting at 7.30 pm. Signing up closes ten minutes before starting time. Fee for guest players: \$ 6.00 or Afl. 10.00 per person.

The club can also be of assistance in finding single players a bridge partner. Please call Addy Eilers : tel. 582-4953

PALM BEACH -- Cool Casino has a surprise prepared for visitors. As of January 29th the muchawaited King Kong Cash is fully up and running.

The novel bank of slot machines by Atronics, nicknamed the Eight Wonder of the World, is based on Universal Studio's monstrous movie adventure involving a beautiful actress and huge Gorilla.

Atronics developed King Kong Cash as the latest giant step in linked gaming and it features a 4-level progressive jackpot and interactive bonus rounds. This game is guaranteed to be as thrilling as the movie, says Casino Manager Marc Charley, who is happy to report that the Kong is well and alive and living at Cool Casino.





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Build-up 200 m2 Land 695 m2 Long Lease Land USD 350.000.00

Beautiful house in the Palm Beach/Westpunt area. House features 3 bedrooms and 2 bathrooms.



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WK 1/2 WK 3/4/5/6

WK7 WK 8 WK 9 WK 2

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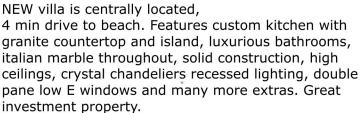


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Después de que fuera hospitalizado por un problema de presión alta

Presidente Lula de Brasil dice que tiene una salud perfecta



El presidente Luiz Inacio Lula da Silva junto a un grupo de médicos en el Hospital Portigues en Recife, Brasil, el jueves 28 de enero de 2010 en una fotografía proporcionada por la presidencia brasileña. (Foto AP/Ricardo Stuckert Presidencia de Brasil)

RIO DE JANEIRO (AP) - El perfecta" luego de que le realizaran

presidente Luiz Inacio Lula da más exámenes médicos el sábado, Silva dijo que tiene una "salud dos días después de que fuera

hospitalizado por un problema de presión alta que lo llevó a perderse el Foro Económico Mundial.

El presidente de 64 años dijo que está dispuesto a trabajar y está listo para la dura campaña presidencial, en la que tratará que su partido continúe en el poder. Regresó a Brasilia después de guardar reposo unos días en su casa cerca de Sao Paulo. "Estoy listo para dar batalla", dijo Lula a los reporteros fuera del hospital en Sao Paulo después de que le realizaran una serie de análisis médicos. "Voy a seguir viajando, desde luego, porque gracias a Dios tengo una salud perfecta".

El doctor Roberto Kalil Filho, cardiólogo de Lula, dijo que está conforme con las pruebas pero advirtió al presidente que haga más ejercicio y se tome más tiempo para descansar.

El miércoles por la noche, Lula se encontraba a bordo de su jet en el noreste de Brasil preparándose para

dirigir el Foro Económico Mundial en Davos cuando su médico personal ordenó que permaneciera en tierra y acudiera a un hospital porque su presión sanguínea se había disparado. El presidente iba a recibir un reconocimiento por su "calidad de estadista mundial" en Suiza.

Los doctores relacionaron la mala salud de Lula con la gran cantidad de viajes que debe realizar, una gripe que no había terminado de curar y el hecho de tener eventos en el calor del verano brasileño. El presidente no suele tener hipertensión. "Estaba preocupado", dijo sobre el momento en el que se sintió mal. Pero realizarse las pruebas fue todavía más atemorizante para él.

"Cada vez que voy a que me revisen me preocupo", dijo Lula . "A veces uno piensa que el problema es la presión alta pero resulta que el problema es una uña del pie, siempre me pone nervioso eso de las revisiones".

Chile: desaparecen 7 partidos políticos pequeños

SANTIAGO DE CHILE (AP) - Siete pequeños partidos políticos serán borrados del registro electoral en abril porque obtuvieron menos del 5% de los sufragios en las elecciones legislativas de diciembre. "El Servel (Servicio Electoral) nos ha notificado que a partir del 26 de abril somos ilegales", dijo el presidente del Partido Comunista (PC), Guillermo Teillier a la edición dominical del diario La Nación.

Teillier, diputado electo del PC, agregó que "con legalidad o sin legalidad, nosotros seguiremos siendo exactamente los mismos".La ley electoral, heredada de la dictadura militar del general Augusto Pinochet (1973-1990), dispone que las colectividades que obtienen menos del 5% de los votos en las elecciones de diputados y senadores, sean borrados del registro del Servel

Teillier dijo que una de sus primera tareas en el Cámara de Diputados, a partir del 11 de marzo, será presentar una moción para modificar la ley, con el fin de que cada grupo que obtenga al menos un diputado sea considerado partido político. El PC obtuvo tres en los comicios de diciembre, después de 37 años de existencia.

Las otras colectividades que deberán desaparecer son el Partido Humanista, el Partido Ecologista, Fuerza País, la Izquierda Cristiana, Chile Primero y el MAS. Para evadir la disposición del Servel las colectividades pueden fusionarse o juntar entre 50.000 y 60.000 firmas para volver a inscribirse.

El PC, los socialistas y el Movimiento de Izquierda Revolucionaria estuvieron entre los grupos más reprimidos después del golpe militar del 11 de septiembre de 1973, y miles de sus militantes fueron torturados y asesinados.

Una investigación oficial de 1991, un año después del restablecimiento de la democracia, determinó que durante los 16 años y medio de la dictadura fueron asesinados 3.065 opositores, de los cuales 1.197 son detenidos desaparecidos.

La dictadura dispuso la disolución de los partidos políticos y el cierre del congreso, situación que se prolongó por 15 años.

Colombia: amenaza de bomba cierra aeropuerto

BOGOTA (AP) - Los pasajeros de un avión comercial que iba a cubrir la ruta Barranquilla-Bogotá fueron evacuados, luego de que el piloto recibió un mensaje sobre explosivos en la aeronave.

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El comandante de la policía en la ciudad de Barranquilla, general Jorge Gutiérrez, dijo el domingo a la AP que un avión de la empresa AeroRepública debía "salir de aquí a las 10 de la mañana (1500 GMT) y, cuando iba a despegar, el piloto recibió un mensaje de texto diciéndole que en el interior hay un explosivo".

Gutiérrez dijo que inmediatamente se activó el sistema de alarma, se cerró el aeropuerto de Barranquilla y se inició la requisa de uno por uno de los 99 pasajeros y sus respectivos equipajes. Barranquilla está a unos 700 kilómetros al norte de la capital colombiana.

"Hasta este momento no hemos encontrado nada alarmante. Todo parece indicar que fue una broma de mal gusto, pero uno no puede descuidar estas cosas", advirtió. El aeropuerto local fue cerrado durante un poco más de tres horas y ya normalizó sus operaciones.

Moraleja golpe Honduras: hay que fortalecer organismos

TEGUCIGALPA (Reuters) -La crisis en Honduras surgida del golpe de Estado, que ya empezó a apaciguarse, dejó al desnudo la incapacidad de Latinoamérica y de Estados Unidos para cuidar la democracia regional, y muchos ahora creen que se debe dar más dientes a los organismos internacionales. La Organización de Estados Americanos (OEA), una de las entidades que tiene por objetivo ser guardián de la democracia, fue rápida en suspender a Honduras de sus filas tras el golpe militar del 28 de junio del año pasado que derrocó a Manuel Zelaya y llevó a un Gobierno de facto al poder.

Pero aunque desde entonces lanzó un ultimátum al Gobierno de facto de Roberto Micheletti y envió varias delegaciones al país centroamericano para cerrar un acuerdo que devolviera el poder a Zelaya, el depuesto mandatario acabó saliendo esta semana exiliado de su refugio en Tegucigalpa sin haber vuelto a pisar la casa presidencial.

Micheletti resistió durante largos meses los exhortos de la OEA. recorte de asistencia económica y las presiones de Estados Unidos v del resto del mundo hasta que el presidente del Congreso le pasó la banda presidencial el miércoles al mandatario Porfirio Lobo, que fue electo en criticados comicios a fines de noviembre auspiciados por el Gobierno de facto.

Para algunos como

analista Carlos internacionales Rodríguez Arechavaleta, crisis en Honduras instauró un triste precedente dentro de la democracia en Latinoamérica: el golpe de Estado sobrevive como mecanismo autoritario de restitución del orden público. Eso era algo que en Latinoamérica, una región golpeada durante el siglo XX por muchos golpes militares y dictaduras, se creía superado. "La presión de la OEA no tuvo efecto alguno, Micheletti ha salido Gobierno de facto inconstitucional aplaudido por sus seguidores como político salvador", de dijo Rodríguez, Universidad mexicana Iberoamericana.



El derrocado mandatario de Honduras Manuel Zelaya (al centro en la imagen) a su salida de la embajada de Brasil en Tegucigalpa, ene 27 2010. Zelaya abandonó el miércoles el país tras meses de refugio en la embajada de Brasil en el mismo día que asumió un nuevo presidente, acabando con la crisis política desatada por el golpe en su contra. REUTERS/Stringer





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